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cism, and his faith in the power of right and truth to conquer both the world and the individual conscience. He

“‘ Still in his right hand carried gentle peace
To silence envious tongues.’”

. . . We may say of him, as it was said of Sir Launcelot, he was ‘the kindest man that ever struck with sword.’”

CHARLES DAVIES.

ON the 18th of September died Professor CHARLES DAVIES, of Fishkill, on the Hudson. His family was of Welch origin, settled in Washington, Litchfield County, Connecticut. Born in 1797, he was removed with his father and his family to St. Lawrence County, New York, in the early part of this century. That region was then almost a wilderness, on the northern frontier. There he was a farmer's boy, inured to work, to country habits, and to some measure of hardship. With a strong constitution, quick mind, and impulsive character, he had all the elements which were necessary to sustain those habits of study and labor which made him a successful student and a most useful teacher. In December, 1813, he was appointed a Cadet at West Point. In consequence of the rapid promotions (it then being war time), he was promoted Second Lieutenant of Artillery in December, 1815. He was only one year in the army proper, except being paymaster at West Point from 1841 to 1846. In December, 1816, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the Military Academy, — a civil officer, created by law for the purpose of having permanent teachers. In 1821, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy; and in May, 1823, Professor of Mathematics. In this chair he remained until May, 1837, when he resigned, and removed to Hartford, Connecticut, chiefly with a view of preparing and publishing the series of educational works which have since made him so well known. The office of teacher had, however, become habitual and natural to him. He loved it, and so he continued in it almost to the last years of his life. From 1839 to 1841, he was Professor of Mathematics in Trinity College, Hartford. Removing to West Point as paymaster, and subsequently to Fishkill on the Hudson, he was appointed Professor of Mathematics and Philosophy in the University of New York, in 1848, and Professor of the Higher Mathematics in Columbia College, New York, in 1857. There he remained until 1865, when he retired, and was elected Emeritus Professor. Even then he did not cease wholly his connection with teachers and teach-

ing. He was invited to and often attended the Teachers' Associations and meetings throughout the country. In 1844, he was President of the Teachers' Association of New York; and in recent years, a member of the "University Convocation" of New York. It was to that body that he made his Report on the "Metric System," which was published in 1870. In 1824, the degree of A.M. was conferred by the College of New Jersey (Princeton); and in 1825, the same degree, by Williams College, Massachusetts; and in 1840, the degree of LL.D., by Geneva College, New York. If his was a life of actual teaching, it was perhaps still more so as the writer of text-books, and the author of methods. He began with the translation of Legendre's Geometry. It was a capital book on that subject; and its success induced him to go on with other works. Among them are no less than six different grades of Arithmetics; Elementary works on Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Practical Mathematics, Surveying and Navigation, Analytical Geometry, Differential and Integral Calculus, Descriptive Geometry, Shades, Shadows and Perspective. In addition to these, he wrote the Logic and Utility of Mathematics; and, jointly with Professor Peck, the Mathematical Dictionary. The following is a complete list: Primary Arithmetic, Intellectual Arithmetic, First Lessons in Arithmetic, Elements of Written Arithmetic, Old School Arithmetic, School Arithmetic, Practical Arithmetic, University Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, New Elementary Algebra, University Algebra, Bourdon's Algebra, Elements of Geometry and Trigonometry, Legendre's Geometry, Practical Mathematics and Mensuration, Elements of Surveying, Elements of Calculus, Analytical Geometry and Calculus, Descriptive Geometry, Shades, Shadows and Perspective, Foundations of Mathematical Science, Grammar of Arithmetic, Outlines of Mathematics, Mathematical Tables, The Metric System, Logic and Utility of Mathematics, Mathematical Dictionary.

FIELDING BRADFORD MEEK.

FIELDING BRADFORD MEEK was born in Madison, Ind., on Dec. 10, 1817, and died in Washington on Dec. 21, 1876. The circumstances of his little-eventful life are of small interest to his fellow-workers in science, save in so far as they show the conditions under which his peculiarly acute perceptions and admirable judgment became fitted for his excellent scientific work. Born in a community where science had no place, and urged by his surroundings to begin commercial ventures in a frontier society, with little preliminary training of any sort, and